

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action of June 5, 2006, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 1 and 3-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over the patent to Drabot, et al.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims presently on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the constructions disclosed in the reference.

Turning now to the reference, it can be seen that Drabot, et al. disclose an elevator pressure traction arrangement that is comprised of a cab, a drive sheave, a load bearing member which is moved by the drive sheave, and a traction device that applies a normal force along a portion of the load bearing member. The presently claimed invention comprises a car, a supporting body, suspension or hoisting means which rest against the supporting body, and a rope-shaped or belt-shaped power transmission means for moving the suspension or hoisting means. The power transmission means is in contact with the supporting body.

Drabot, et al. do not disclose a passive support member but rather a drive sheave that actively supplies a rotational force to the load bearing member in order to move the cab (see column 2, lines 23-27). Furthermore, the traction device according to Drabot, et al. is not a rope-shaped or belt-shaped power transmission means as in the presently claimed invention, but instead is a traction device that uniquely applies a normal force to the load bearing member (see column 2, lines 28-32). Furthermore, the traction device of Drabot, et al. is not in contact with the drive sheave (see fig. 3) as in the presently claimed invention.

Drabot, et al. give no disclosure of the above-discussed features, namely a belt-shaped power transmission means that bias the suspension or hoisting means against a supporting body and being in contact with the supporting body, as in the presently claimed

invention. Thus, Drabot, et al. do not disclose the presently claimed invention.

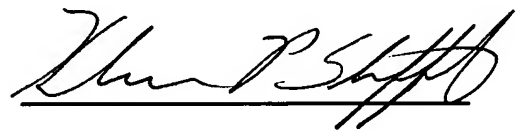
In view of these considerations, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1 and 3-30 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over the above-discussed reference is overcome and should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

In the event any actual fee is greater than any payment submitted or is inadvertently not enclosed or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-2143.

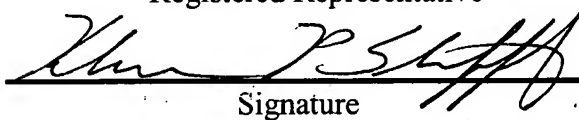
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on September 5, 2006:

Respectfully submitted,



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Date of Signature

KPS/mj